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The Current

THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

In This Issue

Re-resolving: Many students would like to do better in school this year. Here's some things to help. See page 3.



Wag the Dog opened last week to rave reviews, Dustin Hoffman and Robert Deniro star. See page 6.



Run away, run away: No it's not Monty Python; it's SID Chuck Yahn, left, running in the Walt Disney World Marathon. See page 5.

Compute this: The Inter-campus Faculty Council has proposed new guidelines for use of student computing fees. See page 8.

News From All Over

Yale will appeal ruling in case of HIV-infected intern

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (U-WIRE)—Yale's School of Medicine filed a motion to appeal Thursday on the recent court case involving a female intern suing under the name of "Jane Doe" who was infected with the HIV virus, according to Yale legal counsel William Doyle. But Michael Koskoff, Doe's attorney, said he does not anticipate that the appellate court, consisting of a panel of judges, will overturn the decision.

"I don't think they have very much of a chance of winning on appeal," Koskoff said. "The appeal only can be granted if a mistake was made in the lower court. The appellate court cannot simply reverse a jury's decision." Doe contracted the HIV virus in August of 1988 while performing an arterial line insertion on an AIDS patient at Yale-New Haven Hospital. On Dec. 18, 1997, a New Haven Superior Court jury awarded Doe \$12.2 million. The case has the potential to impact residency programs across the nation. Medical schools are coming under fire for unsafe practices involving their interns.

—Alison Rousseau
Yale Daily News

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More frat signs are smeared

Vandal targets Sig Tau signs promoting rush

BY BILL ROLFES
staff writer

Two signs advertising rush events for the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity were vandalized Thursday morning outside the University Center.

One of the signs had blue paint smeared over the front of it; the other had green paint on it.

Sigma Tau Gamma members said the act occurred between 11:00 p.m. Wednesday and 3:30 a.m. Thursday. They said some Sigma Pi fraternity members saw the sign at 11:00 p.m., and it was not defaced. Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity members were on campus at 3:30 a.m. helping the Alpha Xi Delta sorority put up its sign when they found their own signs vandalized.

D.J. Frare, president of Sigma Tau Gamma, said he is not concerned about who smeared the paint on the signs; he said he just wants to know the reason for the vandalism.

"I'd like to give the guilty party a chance to justify their actions or at least explain why they did this," Frare said.

Frat Attack

September 1994

Student files grievance against Sigma Pi fraternity, allege sign promotes "hatred against women"

September 1996

University officials throw Sig Pi sign in dumpster during EXPO

September 1997

Vandals splash Sig Pi signs with green paint



Stephanie Platt/The Current

The Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity posted this and another sign outside the U Center last week. Unknown vandals splashed green and blue paint on the signs.

Tim James, vice president of programs for Sigma Tau Gamma, spent about 10 hours painting the signs. He said materials for the signs totalled between \$150 and \$200.

He calls the act "ignorant."

"It makes everyone look bad," James said. "It makes us look bad. It makes the other person look bad."

Rick Blanton, interim director of Student Activities, said he noticed the defaced signs as he passed by them on his way to work Thursday morning.

Last semester, a vandal smeared green paint on a sign promoting Sigma Pi's Sexy Legs contest. Blanton said the recent act of vandalism disturbed him more than the former because he didn't think anything on the Sigma Tau Gamma signs could have

been viewed as politically incorrect.

"I was distressed about this one... I couldn't find anything offensive on the sign," Blanton said. "The signs listed upcoming events and their titles. The titles weren't in bad taste."

No one can say for sure whether the person or group of people who vandalized the Sigma Tau Gamma sign was the same that defaced the Sigma Pi sign. However, the two incidents share common elements, Blanton said.

"I think it's very coincidental," Blanton said. "They used the same color paint, bright green, and it was done at night."

Blanton characterized the act as "cow-

see SIGNS, page 8

Senate will decide stop hour

Committee says campus would welcome change

BY MARY LINDSLEY
staff writer

A University Senate committee is moving forward with a plan they say will enhance the quality of students' time on campus.

Bruce Wilking, physics professor and member of the Senate Student Affairs Committee, said the committee is developing a proposal for an "enrichment hour" to present at a senate meeting in March.

The plan will call for a one- to two-hour period each week when the University does not schedule classes, during which students can study, meet with faculty members, participate in campus activities, or attend student organization meetings.

Wilking said the committee's concern is that UM-St. Louis' commuter students lack an adequate opportunity to take advantage of campus programs and services.

"It [the enrichment hour] gives commuter students a chance to experience campus life like a residential student would," Wilking said.

Rick Blanton, interim director of Student Activities, said the plan would "attract students to services, programs and activities, and it will add to the academic mission of this



Rick Blanton
says response is good

see STOP, page 8

A&S gives voting power to lecturers

BY DAVID BAUGHER
staff writer

Full-time Arts & Sciences lecturers have received the right to vote at the college's meetings.

The decision was passed by a vote of the faculty at the college's December meeting, said Martin Sage, the interim dean of the college. Only one vote was cast in opposition.

"I think the lecturers have essentially become full members of the college," Sage said.

Sage said he was surprised that the action hadn't been taken already. "The thing is why it took so long," Sage said. "I have no idea why they didn't have the vote in the college at an earlier stage."

Sage said the decision made sense because lecturers differ from professors only in that they do not conduct research.

"There could be some issues that come up in the college that relate to research, but frankly it doesn't come up that often," Sage said.

Sage said that full membership in the college also means that lecturers can now sit on the school's elected committees. The advisory committee on tenure, which is appointed by the dean, is still restricted to only full professors. Sage said the college probably has more than 200 voting members. It meets five times a year and votes on course changes, graduation lists, transfer regulations and resolutions introduced by the members.

Sage estimates about 50 lecturers will be affected by the change. □



Martin Sage

New sticker pickup proves problematic

Alleged abuses prompt officials to stop mailing permits to drivers

BY MARY LINDSLEY
staff writer

A change in the way parking permits are distributed to students has resulted in some frustration for both students and staff members.

Ernest Cornford, director of finance, said the decision was made last fall to stop the practice of mailing permits to students. Instead students now must pick up their permits at the cashier's office.

"We tried to mail them out for a while to see how it would work, but our experience was that there seemed to be some potential for abuse," Cornford said.

He cited the fact that some students were receiving as many as five permits per semester as one problem with the previous system. He said another difficulty came from students registering on the first day of classes who weren't receiving their permits in enough time to avoid getting parking tickets.

Jim Avery, Student Government Association president, said he was displeased with the new procedure and that the actions of certain individuals should not affect the policy for everyone.

"They're taking a customer service project and regressing with it," Avery said. "People don't have time to stand in line and wait for their permits." Avery also said that when he stopped by the cashier's office on

Monday, only two of the office's windows were open and that lines extended outside the doors of Woods Hall.

Gwen Littleton, administrative assistant to the cashier's office, said the policy has always been to have students pick up their permits. "We began mailing them four years ago to keep down on lines and as a courtesy to students," Littleton said.

She said that despite the added convenience, her office fielded numerous complaints from students who didn't receive their permits in the mail. She said that since the change back to the previous policy, she has had to deal with "hundreds" of new complaints.

Cornford acknowledged that "Monday was the worst for lines" but estimates that most students spent no more than 15 to 20 minutes waiting for their permits. He added that clerks were working with customers in line as well as at the windows.



Daniel Hazelton/The Current

This car has the sticker (it's there; look closely) that many cars on campus last week were without.

Avery said he was also concerned that campus police were issuing tickets on the first day of class amidst all the confusion.

Robert Roeseler, director of institutional safety, responded that although officers may be more lenient during the first couple days of the semester, "in cases of safety hazards, obstruction of traffic, or unauthorized parking in handicapped spaces, the officers will issue tickets."

Cornford said the method for distributing permits may undergo even further change, adding that campus police may take responsibility for permit issuance.

"We have to determine what we can do to make this easy for the student," Cornford said. □

Becky Rickard, features editor
phone: 516-5174 fax: 516-6811
e-mail: s100854@admiral.umsi.edu

Odds & Ends

column a generic offering



What is it about holidays that makes them so weird after you've become an adult? Is it that flying reindeer stop being magical and start being a major threat to a newly washed car? Or is it that creepy feeling you get when you think of some dirty old man coming down you're chimney? It's a safe bet that if your security alarms go off it sure as hell isn't Santa.

At least I have kids in my life to give a Christmas to. It gives the season some normalcy to see kids whipped into a frenzy by a bunch of toys that won't survive the day. In years past it was always fun to watch the kids get overly excited about one toy only to drop it moments later because they just unwrapped something better. One year I gave such great things to my nephew that I saw him shake with the existential angst that only a two-year-old can feel: Oh my God, what do I play with first?? Of course, the best part is that I get to play with some of the toys, too.

This year, though, my nieces live and die for Barbie dolls. I know, I know, I've tried to break them of this lamentable habit but it's a phase they must go through, I'm afraid. The only fun I have with Barbies besides hanging them in effigy is to read the list of Realistic Barbie Dolls posted on the Internet. My favorites are Gangsta Bitch Barbie complete with court papers in her purse and Abandoned Barbie, who comes with a pregnancy test. (Depending on the test results, you can buy a Lawyer Ken or a rusty coat hanger.) I've decided that Barbie is realistic enough, because in real life she would be that plastic.

The adult celebrations of the holidays were just as weird as stringing Barbies up like bait. When I got home Christmas Eve, I found my roommates heavily into the Christmas spirits and watching all our movies that have to do with twisted and comical suicide themes, like *Harold and Maude*, *Heathers* and *Better Off Dead*. I suppose that some people could feel warm and fuzzy watching teenagers contemplate zany suicide attempts, especially depending on which teenager is doing it. Somehow, though, it just didn't send the right holiday message to me. I much preferred last year, when I spent some time playing dreidel for money. My friends and I turned it into something like a craps game in which we spun two dreidels and our cash prize depended on what letters came up and whether they matched.

New Year's was just as forgettable, although not for the traditional reason. One thing I do already like about the new year is a billboard on Highway 40 downtown going west. It belongs to a healthcare network and shows how many babies have been born in its hospitals this year. I thought it was so cute to see that seven babies had been born by New Year's afternoon and I like to see it increase each time I drive past. It's given me a new goal. I'd like to give birth to the first baby of the new millennium. Of course, this would take some planning. I'd have to conceive in April 1999.

Better start lining up dates early. □

Jill Barrett's column appears every other week. Contact her at 516-5174, by fax 516-6811 or e-mail at current@jinx.umsi.edu

Strengthening your RESOLVE

May old acquaintances be forgotten . . . blah, blah, blah. Everyone has recently heard this song with the ringing in of the new year. This song usually accompanies hugs, kisses, toasts and those dreaded new year's resolutions. Like many college students across the United States, UM-St. Louis students may have resolved to quit smoking, drinking, lose weight or — as the grades become finalized for the fall semester of 1997 — to do better in school.

BY BECKY RICKARD
staff writer

It is a new year and many students may want to start the winter semester with a clean slate and better grades. The first way for a student to increase academic success is to set realistic goals for the new semester.

A senior counseling psychologist at UM-St. Louis, Gloria Lubowitz, advises students to recognize their learning styles and to adapt their study habits accordingly. "You have to know yourself and you have to be honest with yourself," Lubowitz said.

The Career Resource Center located in 427 SSB has trained counselors who can administer personality tests that may aid students in adapting learning styles to personality traits. Personality tests, such as the Myers-Briggs inventory, may bring students one step closer to determining their learning styles. The CRC also has computer resources that can help the student determine strengths and weaknesses in learning styles while implementing a study program designed with techniques suited for the individual.

The CRC provides many services designed to help students achieve academic success, choose a major and reduce test anxiety. Counseling is also available for students whose personal lives might be interfering with school. According to Lubowitz, the biggest road blocks to academic success are problems that occur outside of the classroom.

"The most obvious reason why students do poorly is that

COUNSELING SERVICE

- CAREER RESOURCE CENTER
- HORIZONS
- THE HELPING HAND MENTORING PROJECT

The Writing Lab

The Writing Lab (409 SSB) and Counseling Services (427 SSB) offer assistance to students in a variety of academic and support areas.

UNDER CURRENT

compiled by Stephanie Platt/staff photographer

What was your nickname as a kild?

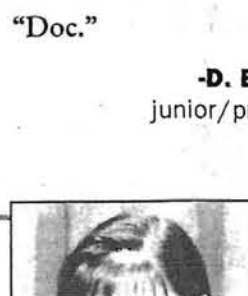
"People called me Nifer because the name 'Jennifer' is so popular."

-Jennifer Bullock
senior/secondary education



"Beandip."

-Wendy Waddell
sophomore/English



"Doc."

-D. Bruce Arokoyo
junior/pre-med, pre-law



"My grandfather has called me Catbird ever since I can remember."

-Carrie Owens
sophomore/biology



"Wheels."

-Jenny Lee Powers
junior/psychology



Daniel Hazelton/ The Current

Mike Nulan, a graduate biology student helps Shuron Payne-Thomas in the Math Lab, 425 Social Sciences and Business Building.

many students have problems outside of school and that's why we have our services," Lubowitz added.

Another reason students may not receive satisfactory grades is probably the simplest - lack of preparation. Preparation requires organization, time management and basic studying. Every student organizes information in different ways, but the key to academic success is to organize information, such as notes, syllabus dates and course requirements, in a way that suits the student's particular goals.

Sylvan Learning Centers have earned an outstanding reputation by helping students increase their learning capabilities. Stephanie Hahnel, director of the Watson Road center, believes that structure and routine are key aspects of improving grades.

"We teach [students] how to make realistic, measurable goals, long and short term," Hahnel said.

Realistic short term goals can be reading a chapter of text before it is discussed in class or working on a research paper forty minutes a day weeks in advance instead of waiting until the weekend before it is due.

"Study a little bit every day so that learning doesn't pile up on you," Lubowitz advises.

Hahnel recommends that college stu-

dents try to study in forty minute increments with ten minute breaks. She also believes in implementing a reward system. Sylvan Learning Centers implements a token system as rewards for younger students while offering gift certificates for adults. However, Hahnel recognizes that college students have the added stress of self-motivation.

"When it's your own responsibility, it might be easy to say why bother. That's where routine and structure come in," Hahnel said.

Test anxiety may be another cause for poor academic results. The CRC can help students who suffer from test anxiety by providing information and exercises that can reduce fear created by tests. Some guidelines for reducing test anxiety are relaxation, positive thinking, deep breathing and relaxation association exercises.

"Don't go into a test straight from a study session. You need to give yourself time to relax. Also, think about things you know rather than things you don't know," Lubowitz said.

If a student has resolved to do better in school in 1998 as a result of a bad semester in 1997, it is important not to dwell on past failures. "Failing one test doesn't mean you're going to fail every test," Lubowitz said.

Think of semesters like tests, one bad semester doesn't mean another has to follow. □

What the market will bear

Econ prof is widely recognized and honored for unique approach

BY AMY LOMBARDO
staff writer

It is not often that economics is described as exciting or even interesting. However, Susan Kay Feigenbaum is changing that. She has been with UM-St. Louis since 1988 and has taught economics since 1993.

Feigenbaum's enthusiasm for creating new ways to teach and learn has resulted in advances virtually unheard of across the country. She is committed to getting students involved as much as possible, especially undergraduates. Feigenbaum tells her students that her goal is to make economics an enjoyable experience for everyone.

"As the second generation of 'pioneers' to benefit from this innovative way of teaching introductory microeconomics, you have the opportunity to have an important impact on the future teaching of undergraduate economics.... With your help and interest, there may even come a day when, sitting on a plane and telling the person next to me that I teach economics, the immediate response will no longer be 'That was the hardest, dullest, worst, most boring class I ever took!'" Feigenbaum explains.

Her unique approach is designed to improve the quality of introductory curriculum. "Introductory Microeconomics: The Way We Live" is based on choices made in everyday life.

Feigenbaum begins the class by illustrating decisions related to having children. Being the mother of an 11 year-old and 2 year-old triplets, she is well educated on the subject.

The secondary goal of the course dedicates time to teaching hands-on quantitative skills to the students. This method is rarely used for introductory courses in the United States.

Feigenbaum's efforts have not gone unnoticed. She has received numerous grants and fellowships for her research, including one of the only supplemental grants given to UM-St. Louis after the initial grant expired. The money will help in attempting to achieve commercial support and take her ideas and programs to a national level.

This year, Feigenbaum received yet another honor for her initiative. She received the Award for Excellence in Teaching from Governor Mel Carnahan on December 11 at the U.M.-St. Louis J.C. Penney Conference Center.

Professor and Chairperson for the Department of Economics, Sharon G. Levin, selected Feigenbaum for the award.

"It was an easy nomination. I solicited letters from students and they came pouring in. In the classroom, she's dynamite. She lives and breathes economics," Levin



Daniel Hazelton/ The Current

Susan Feigenbaum, right, works with peer tutor Anwar Lee in the economics computer lab.

says.

Feigenbaum's students share Levin's praise. Anwar Lee is a U.M.-St. Louis junior majoring in Economics and Finance. Last year he served as teacher's aide for Feigenbaum.

"She's a very inspiring teacher who's willing to share the knowledge she has in economics. She goes out of her way to ensure that everyone does their best," Lee says.

Feigenbaum strives to go above and beyond what is required. She considers herself to be a "teacher-scholar" and believes that teachers can learn from their students just as much as students can learn from their teachers. The key is to listen to fresh perspectives with an open mind.

The award and recognition is well deserved and hopefully only the beginning of innovations Feigenbaum will bring to U.M.-St. Louis. □

Comments

The Current

THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

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How to Respond

Your response is an important part of the weekly debate on this page. Letters should be brief and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity, length and grammar. All letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number.



Mail

Letters to the editor
7940 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, MO 63121



Fax

(314) 516-6811



E-mail

current@jinx.umsi.edu



Telephone

(314) 516-5174

OUR OPINION

Quit complaining; join the senate

The Issue:

The University Senate allows 25 students to serve on the board, but only 12 have shown the initiative to hold those seats.

We Suggest:

Students who are concerned with campus issues should run for the senate so the available student positions will not be reduced.

The Issue:

So what do you think? Let us hear from you on this or any issue in a letter to the editor.

If there is one thing college students everywhere have in common, it's complaining. What exactly we complain about isn't always important; the act of complaining itself seems sufficient many times to satiate whatever irks us at the moment.

But if you're complaint has ever been about University policy or academic procedure, it's a pretty safe bet you have no right to complain. That is, unless you're one of the dozen or so students who actually bothered to do something about it when given the chance.

The University Senate, a representative body of UM-St. Louisans, each year has about 25 seats open for students. Students apply; their names are put on a ballot, and their peers make a selection in the spring of each year.

Last year, 12 brave students duked it out for one of 25 seats. Needless to say, there were enough seats to go around — twice.

For whatever reason (we have stopped trying to figure it out) students here don't appreciate the import of their participation at the senate (or any other) level. The lack of interest in filling the seats allotted to students is a

perennial embarrassment. But faculty senators are well aware of the problem and are hinting that University students won't enjoy the current level senatorial access if they continue to leave substantial numbers of the available seats unfilled.

In November, David Ganz, associate professor of chemistry and coordinator for student elections to the senate, intimated at a Student Government Association meeting that the available student representation could be significantly reduced at the senate level if students don't start filling more seats.

And as devastating as that would be (trust us; it would be), who could blame them? Why continue to leave senate seats unfilled because students are too lazy? . . . apathetic? . . . uninformed to take hold of a golden opportunity when they see one?

Consider the precedent this sets. Senate seats reduced (or eliminated) today may mean reduction or elimination tomorrow of other equally or more important opportunities for students to represent themselves in University deliberative bodies and processes.

So stop complaining. Do something about it. □

Where are the police? Give us a sign

Where's Waldo may be a fun activity for children, but playing "Where's the UM-St. Louis Police Department?" could turn out to be an unpleasant game for adults.

The latest campus map doesn't even show where the police department is located. It simply labels it as the Telecommunity Center.

The map labels the locations of emergency telephones but no police department. The map on the back of the winter 1998 schedule of classes doesn't even label the building as the Telecommunity Center - it still calls the complex the Blue Metal Building even though it hasn't been blue or metal for several years now.

What if visitors need to know where the police department is located? They could simply go to the campus map at the Alumni Circle and find it, right? Sorry. That, too, labels the building as the Telecommunity Center.

If something should happen near the North Campus MetroLink station, someone could run to the campus police department for help. That is, if that person knew where it was. There isn't a sign on or near the building indicating that it is the police department. (The one sign on Mark Twain Drive is not much bigger than a piece of notebook paper.)

The only sign by the building is for the Telecommunity Center, which only takes up half of the complex. A sign letting students, and criminals, know where the public safety offices are located might not be a bad idea. □

Long-ing for some resolution

You may have forgotten about Melinda Long, but you can bet faculty, administrators and especially John Onuska have not.

Allow me to refresh your memory: Long, a senior English and education major, filed a grievance against Onuska last year, alleging he violated her civil rights and right to privacy. She says he passed out to his Shakespeare class a complete list of class members, their grades, attendance records and his own personal literary asides like "black" to indicate African American students.

If her case ever reaches a grievance hearing, Long will likely argue that Onuska's circulation of the roster violated her right to privacy; his use of racial identifiers violated her civil rights.

For his part, Onuska shouldn't be punished for using the descriptors. Even someone brazen enough to circulate a class roster with handwritten, unofficial identifiers on it is not likely to use racial or gender epithets that are obviously discriminatory and warrant censure, even though Long would probably disagree.

As for "black," accepted social conventions aside, use of terms like "black" and even "fat" or "blonde" are not the "Go to jail; Go directly to jail" cards for which they are often mistaken.

(Long's grievance does not allege Onuska coupled these adjectives with obvious slurs.) Are these terms offensive? Maybe. Tasteless? Possibly. Questionable? Without doubt. Punishable or grounds for reversing a students' grade? Not on your life.

But Onuska isn't home free yet. Where he might run into trouble and where Long may have a more substantive case for a grievance is the bit about circulating the roster itself.

Onuska has declined repeated offers to talk to *The Current* about the case so he has yet to confirm, deny or refuse to respond in public to Long's allegation that he did in fact circulate the roster. And though Onuska's culpability in using the modifiers on the roster is largely a subjective matter, circulating the roster (should it be proven he did so) raises serious right-to-privacy issues that are less subjective and more constitutional in nature. If he did circulate the roster, I'm not sure we want to uphold the practice for tenured professors or regular instructors in any case. What's certain is that a grievance committee should decide the matter.

Whether or not Long's grievance will ever reach the hearing stage is less certain because the whole case is fraught with all manner of bungling and fumbling. A&S officials appear to have given Long crummy, misinformed advice in the early stages of her grievance. Then the grievance got tossed among two or three offices in Woods Hall until finally, in his first weeks on the job, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Jack Nelson wound up with it. Unfortunately, for whatever reasons, he gave Long some more conflicting, ambiguous (mis)information.

If the University ever had a chance to stave off litigation from Long, it has sufficiently antagonized her since then to the point that even after internal resolution, she's still likely to sue.

And that's sad, because a little moderation and understanding on both the parts of Long and Onuska could have prevented this whole charade. □



DOUG HARRISON
editor in chief

GUEST COMMENTARY

Everything back to normal

Over the Christmas break I had a lot of time on my hands. With the exams over and the holidays coming and going, I found myself bored by most standards. Don't get me wrong, I love the holidays! The happiness, the songs, the sales and the family are enough to make me want to hurl. I got so tired of hearing about Christmas and New Year's that whenever the subject would come up, I would try to change the subject or just not pay attention.

It was a little harder this year, for several reasons. First off, I have two nieces, and they just get a kick out of the lights, carols and presents that surround the tree I refused to put up this year, again. It was cool to see their

little faces light up when they opened up all their gifts, but something wasn't right.

Second, my home was the site of the 1997 Holway Christmas. All 50 Holways crowded into our home to celebrate the holiday. It was good to see all the family, but our house looked like Martha Stewart went overboard with the Christmas decor. All the holiday cheer just doesn't do anything for me anymore. Now, I am far from being a Scrooge, but to me Christmas and New Year's are just two out of 365 days. In order to get away from all the holiday bliss, in the three and a half weeks we were off, I clocked a total of 175 hours at work. It was great. I would go in at 5 a.m. and work until 6 p.m. I made enough money to start paying some of the bills.

My reasoning is somewhat simple. If we make the holidays an excuse to be kind and giddy at only one time of the year, why not just get rid of the rest of the calendar? Everybody just wants the Holidays, right? All the Christmas decorations and preparations, the new year excitement and a pretty nasty hangover don't amount to anything once it is all over. Come Jan. 2, it's all a memory, and in some cases, not even that.

I prefer to carry on as usual throughout the holidays. I like things that stay the same. I wear the same clothes, drink the same soda and adult beverages and I have a written-in-stone daily routine. I like my days to be monotonous. And I find it a shame that we need a holiday to make everyone something that they are normally not.

I am happy that things are back to normal. Carrying on with the crazies of the day is the way of telling me that after all the holiday hype, absolutely nothing has



READER RESPONSE

Banking on new hours

UMB Bank would like to respond to the comments about our hours in your Jan. 12 issue.

UMB is very happy to have our newest location open at the University Center. We do read *The Current* and have seen your comments about our hours. We certainly want to be able to offer convenience and service. Proposed expanded hours will include re-opening the bank daily from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. We feel these hours will be more conducive to the campus' needs and we look forward to providing your banking services. We will soon be announcing the effective date for UMB Bank's expanded hours. So watch for new bank hours: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

—Joan Cleaveland
branch manager

Chivalry, RIP

I just wanted to comment on the Bill Rolfe article "You Could have said Thanks."

Bill, I would like to disagree with you on that "chivalry is dead," but I can't. When I read your article, I saw many of the same things you mentioned in the article. It's pretty bad to think that a person can't take one sec-

happens more than we think.

To make matters worse, I work in a retail setting and over the holiday season I was cursed out by at least a dozen customers as they left the store, after I told them to "have a nice day."

Every blue moon I do come across someone who does give me that courtesy back, and it is a bit fulfilling. Last year as I was going to a class in Lucas Hall, I noticed that a female student had her arms full of books so I waited that extra second till she reached the doors and opened them up for her. I must have really caught her off guard, because she turned to me and commented how sweet that was to do. I only saw it as a small act of kindness, but in any sense it made me feel good about what I did.

I must sound like some wierdo commenting on something most people would think as trivial, but I just wanted to basically say that, if you ever let me on the road from a parking lot, I will give you that wave to say "thanks."

—Steve Wood

President has it all wrong

I would like to respond to Jim Avery's letter that

Finally, a reason to turn on the radio

Every time I get in my car I wonder what I'll listen to during my drive. I'm usually not in the mood to hear any of my CDs, so I turn on the radio, hoping I'll hear a song that hasn't been over-played in the past weeks.

Usually my hopes do not become reality.

St. Louis radio stations seem to play only mainstream songs and ruin many good songs by playing them in excess. Haven't they heard the saying: "Always leave your audience wanting more?"

One radio station that seems to be breaking the barriers of what has become traditional radio is KNSX 93.3 FM, 93X. Its format does not include any live deejays — the producers program a bunch of songs into a computer and it plays them back in the order they were programmed. KNSX doesn't play many commercials, either. Maybe three minutes worth at a time.

The station plays modern rock music (or alternative or whatever you call it) and more of a variety of bands than other stations. I heard The Verve's "Bittersweet Symphony" on 93X at least a month before I heard it on any other station.

Many radio stations play only one song off an album, even if every song on it is good. The St. Louis stations have played Chumbawamba's "Tubthumping" to death. I liked it at first, and I even bought the CD, but

now I change the station when the song comes on. The CD's second track, "Amnesia," is a cool song, and 93X started playing it two or three weeks ago. I have yet to hear it on any other radio station, but I'm sure I will soon — then I'll get sick of that song, too, after the first 500 times I hear it.

The 93X format may seem impersonal, without any live voices, but I don't listen to the radio so I can hear people drone on and on about nothing important in an attempt to make their listeners think they are trendy. Traci Wilde, from 105.7 FM The Point's afternoon show, is an excellent example of this.

Actually, there are few deejays I do like. I enjoy John Ulett from 94.7 FM KSHE and Jeff Burton from The Point.

Ulett is entertaining without trying to be trendy. He seems to have a relaxed style. He doesn't attempt to be over-energetic, and he doesn't have to try to be humorous as many deejays do.

Burton is trendy. He is your basic "Generation X" slacker (he continually boasts of getting kicked out of C.B.C. or Vianney, or one of those all-boys high schools). While trendy is usually annoying, it works for Burton. He is actually funny.

While I do enjoy a few deejays, I am not a fan of talk radio. I want to hear music when I turn on the radio, and the only station I



BILL ROLFE
managing editor



CRAIG HOLWAY
guest commentator

Ken Dunkin, sports editor
phone: 516-5174 fax: 516-6811
e-mail: kdunkin@rocketmail.com

Sports

OFF THE WALL



KEN DUNKIN
sports editor

The Green Bay Packers by 12 points? What is the deal with the SubPar Bowl every year?

Every year the AFC team gets its hopes up only to be blasted by a more dominant NFC team. This year the hapless victim is the Denver Broncos. Denver had a good run. They ran over my Chiefs which says a lot for the boys from the Rockies. Then they put the Steelers in the scrap heap with lots of help from Kordell Stewart.

Now they face a new look Packers team. This isn't the same team that destroyed the Patsies last year.

Gone are MVP Desmond Howard and Andre Rison. They didn't really matter that much to begin with. The Pack is back, meaner than ever, and it scares me.

They beat up an over-hyped '49's team who make a living beating up losers like the Rams.

The Pack, though, is way ahead of the game. They have the skills and they have been there before as they left New England in a pile of bodies as Howard scooted down the field.

Broncos quarterback John Elway has been there too, but the man is a loser every time. Each time it gets worse. This game won't be as bad as the drubbings he has received in the past. He won't produce a winner though. The Pack is that good.

I accept that Denver has a great passing game. The running game isn't too shabby either. The defense is the key.

The Pack has quality players all over the field. The Broncos have Neil Smith and Steve Atwater and a field of guys that are good enough to cover up their mistakes.

They win and keep the opponents pinned quite often. They haven't faced an offense like the Pack.

The game will still be a disappointment.

Every year people get their hopes up. Every year people complain the next day about the game being boring or a blood bath.

Not since 1990 when the New York Giant lost due to a Scott Norwood missed field goal has a Super Bowl game been exciting.

Maybe I expect too much. Maybe the game is over-hyped, just a little though. Maybe the league is just horrible.

Whatever the case the game doesn't live up to the hype.

The half-time show is horrible and now we don't have the Beavis and Butt-Head "Butt-Bowl" to fall back on.

What is the world coming to?

This year I don't expect much. I believe the Pack will run away with the game.

The Broncos won't even know what hit them. □

Ken Dunkin's column appears every other week. Contact him at 516-5174, by fax at 516-6811, by mail (see page 4) or by e-mail at kdunkin@rocketmail.com

Rivermen outrun Greyhounds

Early lead key in win over Indianapolis, Meckfessel says

BY JOE HARRIS
special to The Current

It turned into an impromptu road game, but the UM-St. Louis Rivermen finally knocked the monkey off their back with an 82-69 win over the Indianapolis Greyhounds Thursday night.

Kyle Bixler's three pointer with 4:06 left in the game ignited a 14-0 run that put the Greyhounds away for good.

"We're not as bad as our record indicates," Rivermen head coach Rich Meckfessel said. "We have struggled with a lot of new players. It helped to get off to a good start."

The good start found the Rivermen up 13-4 just 4:58 into the game. The Rivermen benefited early from a balanced scoring attack and a major reduction in turnovers. Early in the season, the Rivermen averaged 20 turnovers a game. In the first half they coughed up the ball only twice.

With the lead established, the Rivermen took control of the game. Mike Harris and Jeremiah Fouts both paced the Rivermen with eight points each in the first half.

"Coach told us to get out and go with it and we did," Harris said. "Coach believes in us and it helps us believe as well."

The Rivermen shot 44 percent from the field in the first half. They went into halftime with a 38-30 lead over a Greyhound team that was at one point ranked the number one team in Division II last year.

UM-St. Louis	38	44	—	82	
Indianapolis	30	39	—	69	
UM-St. Louis	PT	FG	3FG	FT	RB
Terrell Alexander	14	6	0	2	3
Eric Stiegman	2	1	0	0	3
Jason Logsdon	13	6	1	0	8
Greg Ross	8	4	0	0	6
Mike Harris	17	8	0	1	10
Jeremiah Fouts	17	4	1	8	4
Ryan Meyers	2	1	0	0	3
Kyle Bixler	7	1	1	4	3
Josh Wolf	2	1	0	0	1
Totals	82	32	3	15	41
Indianapolis	PT	FG	3FG	FT	RB
Jeremy Gentry	4	1	0	2	7
Chuck Gilbert	20	7	0	6	4
Kevin Skurka	2	1	0	0	0
Travis Inskeep	8	4	0	0	5
Matt Britton	7	2	1	2	7
Jim Lindsey	15	6	0	3	11
Andy Foster	11	4	3	0	4
Bryan Coyne	2	1	0	0	1
Totals	69	26	4	13	39

The Rivermen came out strong in the second half and built their lead to 12 despite the home court disadvantage. The Greyhounds brought most of the 350 in attendance with them from Indianapolis. They brought their band, even their mascot, Mark

The good start helped. When we get down, sometimes I get frustrated and I try too hard so I forget about my teammates.

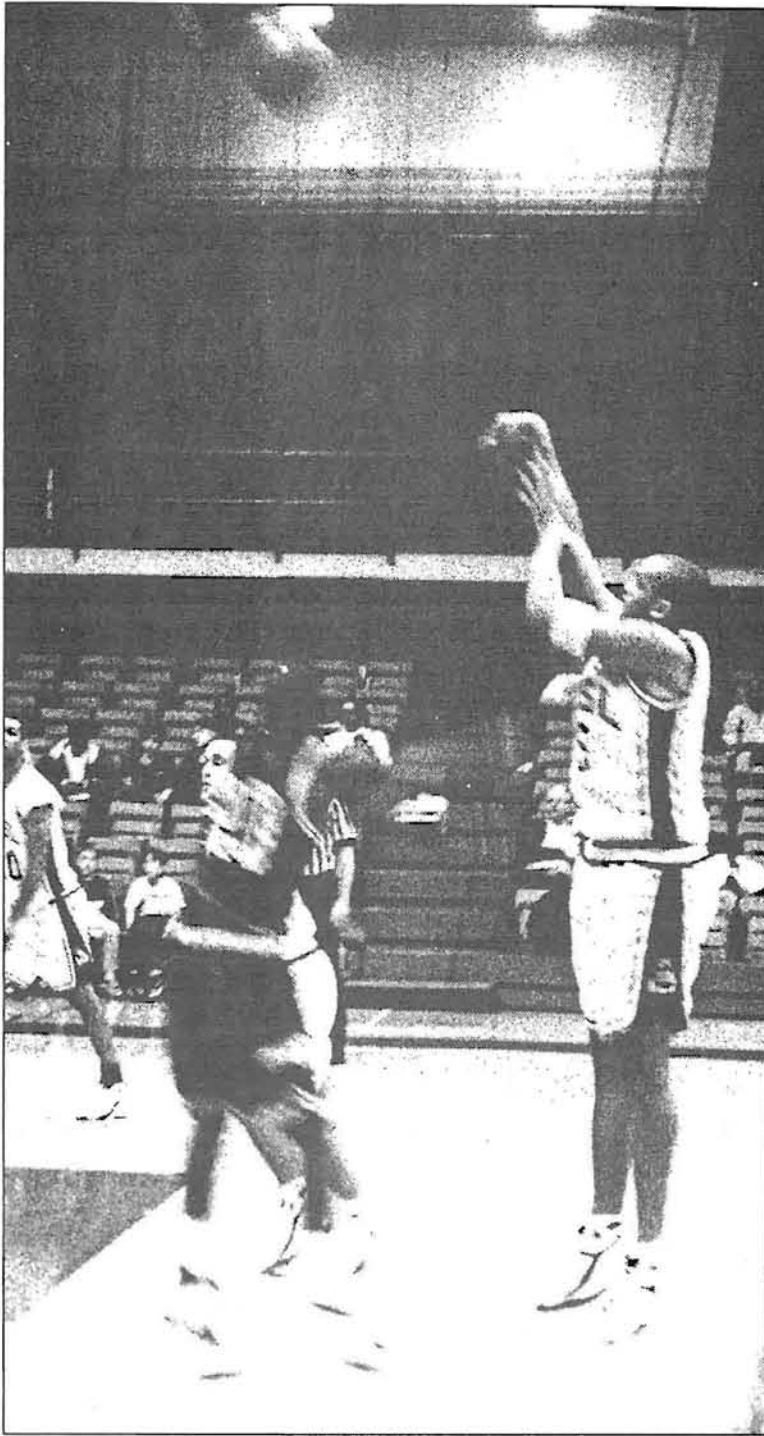
-Jeremiah Fouts
junior guard/forward

It would be Fouts that would pick up his team for a few minutes in the second half. After the Greyhounds launched a mini-run to cut the lead to seven, Fouts nailed a three pointer to build the deficit to ten at 64-54 with 7:32 to go.

The Greyhounds would come back. They cut the lead back down to six when Bixler became the unlikely hero. "He (Bixler) had been struggling," Meckfessel said. "We thought he might relax a little more coming off the bench, but that hasn't seemed to work either. His shot tonight was the shot of the game."

The victory improved the Rivermen's record to 5-10, 1-6 in GLVC play. Both Harris and Fouts led the Rivermen with 17 points. Harris went 8-12 from the field and Fouts was 8-8 from the free-throw line.

The victory did a lot for the team's confidence. "We're a young team, but we are competing better," Fouts said. "Next year we should be the team to beat." □



Daniel Hazelton/ The Current

Jeremiah Fouts shoots from three-point range over Indianapolis guard Jim Lindsey. Fouts and UM-St.

Louis guard Mike Harris led the Rivermen with 17 points a piece in Thursday night's win.

A Grueling Vacation

Sports information director completes D-World Marathon

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff writer

Walt Disney World, EPCOT, the Magic Kingdom and Florida are all signs of an ideal vacation spot over the holidays.

But for Chuck Yahng, UM-St. Louis sports information director, though, it was the gathering spot for the Walt Disney World Marathon he participated in, Jan. 11.

With nearly 10,000 runners and a 6 a.m. start, Yahng had difficulty from the beginning.

"I had to wake up and catch a bus at 4:30," Yahng said. "The start was really crowded and the first mile was really slow."

This hilly and grueling 26.2 miles started outside EPCOT and continued to the half-way point at the Magic Kingdom. From there, Yahng ran through Cinderella's castle, MGM Studios and onto the famous Boardwalk before he finished in a personal best time of 3:59.39.

The motto of the marathon, "Don't confuse fantasy with reality. There is nothing make-believe about this," fit Yahng's reaction to the finish line to a tee.

"I was absolutely exhausted at the finish line. I ran as hard as I possibly could," Yahng said. "There was an immense feeling of self accomplishment. All of the hard work and training was worth it."

It was Yahng's third completed marathon in only seven years of running. But Yahng is quick to point out that it is no easy task to train for any marathon.



photo courtesy of Chuck Yahng

Chuck Yahng, left, with his father-in-law, Ron Evens, center, and his brother-in-law, Ron Evens Jr. after completing the Walt Disney World Marathon, Jan. 11.

"The training for the marathon was the hard thing. You have to find the time and go through minor injuries," Yahng said. "It took me five months, from late July, to train for this one."

Yahng went so far with his school pride as to wear a UM-St. Louis women's basketball tanktop. "[Shelly Ethridge] gave me a shirt and I promised I would wear it," Yahng said.

"I would like to thank Pat Dolan and trainer Jeff Eddy who helped me through my ankle injury," Yahng said. "I would also like to thank my wife who was patient with me as I took off running for two or three hours." □

Women's hoop team defeats Indianapolis

Ethridge happy with Riverwomen's effort 'as a whole' in 10th win of the season

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff writer

The Riverwomen basketball team continued its impressive season as it rolled over Indianapolis Thursday 82-68.

The squad improved its record to 10-4 overall and 4-3 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

The game started well for the Riverwomen as they jumped on the Indianapolis squad early. They had a 37-25 lead at halftime.

Much of the first half success was due to the play of forward Annette Brandy, who had 15 points in the first half. She also led the team with a game high 27 points, and led both squads with four steals. Brandy dominated the game despite several nagging injuries.

"Annette has been injured before," head coach Shelly Ethridge said. "She has eight stitches in her eye, she has torn ligaments in her thumb and she is all wrapped up. She went out and had one of the better games that I've seen her play. She does it all for us."

The Riverwomen also impressed Ethridge. They dominated the mediocre Indianapolis team with hard work both offensively and defensively.

"Tonight I was very pleased with everybody as a whole," Ethridge said. "This is only the second game that I have felt that way. Everyone contributed and played their role well. Everybody crashed well and the defense was there tonight. It makes for a good

game."

Still there is room for improvement. Ethridge feels the team can play better.

"I will be happy when we can play a game as a team," Ethridge said. "We need to play well for 40 minutes, not in spurts but a full game as a team."

"There are times we improve and times we regress. We regressed against Rockhurst."

The Riverwomen played Rockhurst Tuesday and lost 82-62. The home court loss was a tough one for the team to swallow.

"We can't do the roller coaster ride, we need to play well every night," Ethridge said.

The team has been getting good play out of two players who had been injured. Jane Ackerman had 13 points and 4 rebounds and Guard Sarah Lawrence had two points and dished off an assist.

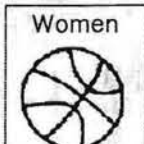
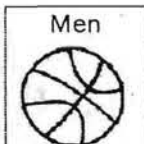
"Jane is starting to feel more comfortable out there as is Sarah Lawrence," Ethridge said. "As long as they keep improving every game, they will be up there in the starting line up."

Ethridge has also been juggling the roster, having several different players in the starting lineup. Ten different players have started games for the Riverwomen.

"The kids know if they aren't out there to play they are going to get taken out and someone who wants to play will be put in," Ethridge said. "Everybody knows they are going to get a chance. That is why practice is so important." □

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

Contact the Athletic Department for information about these and other events.



Tuesday
20
Men
Women

Thursday
22
at IUPUI-Fort Wayne 6:00 p.m. (EST)
at IUPUI-Fort Wayne 8:00 p.m. (EST)

Saturday
24
at St. Joseph's 7:30 p.m.
at St. Joseph's 1:00 p.m.

Movie Review

Horrific comedy blends humor, cynicism

Wag the Dog
Rated R (language)
Running time: 97 min.
Now Playing

It is rare that a movie can actually horrify the viewer. Sure, movies such as *Scream* and other horror movies make you tremble, even jump, but it is superficial. The great part of these movies is you know in the end this is just a movie. After this movie is over, you keep thinking, could this really happen?

The story starts out with the president creating a scandal when he invites a Fire-Fly girl into his secret room off the Oval Office. Of course, this happens two weeks before the election. The campaign re-election team hires a political spin doctor to stop the dam and change the tide.

The team brings in specialist Conrad Brean (Robert DeNiro) to change the opinion of the American people. He decides he needs to hire Hollywood movie producer Stanley Motss (Dustin Hoffman) to produce a distraction which would divert the attention of the media from the sex scandal. Of course, the ensuing scenes show how far this make-a-shift team will go to win the presidency.

The film floats from one unexpected twist to another without a clear definite path to follow. When everything seems to be flowing smoothly, something comes along to disrupt the process which makes Brean and Motss call upon their brain trust for ideas. This brain trust includes Fad King (Denis Leary) and Johnny Green (Willie Nelson), who usually comes up with an acceptable solution to the problem at hand.

Wag the Dog makes several points that need to be considered. First, would someone have enough ambition and guts to try to pull off this idea?

And second, is the American people naive enough to fall for it? I hope

After this movie is over, you keep thinking, could this really happen?

no in both categories.

Wag the Dog is a good movie with interesting twists that spin the tale darker and darker. It is a biting comedy with copious amounts of cynicism.

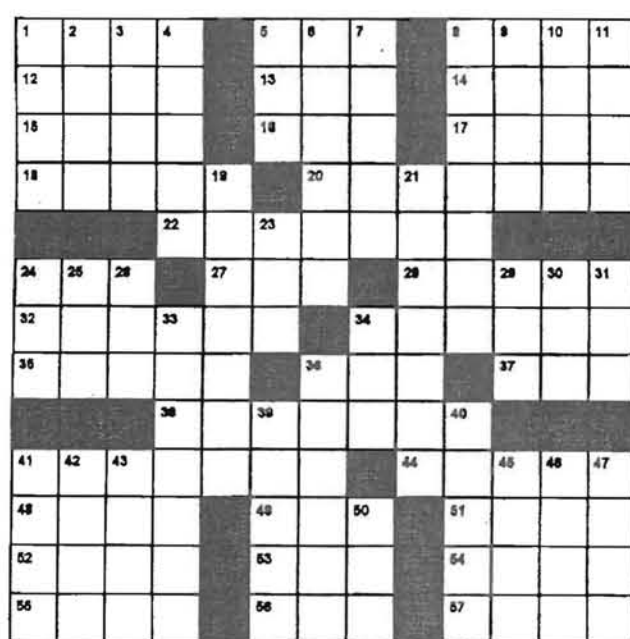
I really enjoyed the humor in this movie, but the concept still has me wondering if this could, or has ever happened.

-Matthew Regensburger

Winifred Ames (Anne Heche), left, Conrad Brean (Robert DeNiro) and Stanley Motss (Dustin Hoffman) execute another act in their staged war in the new movie *Wag the Dog*.



Crossword Companion



ACROSS

- 1 Bottom
- 5 Bit; scrap
- 8 Stop the flow
- 12 Range
- 13 Each
- 14 Microphone (slang)
- 15 Circle
- 16 Resort
- 17 God of War
- 18 One who takes another
- 20 Without purpose
- 22 Musical performance
- 24 Fuss
- 27 Rough casing around s
- 28 4th Greek letter
- 32 Pertaining to an animal
- 34 Leaky
- 35 Tidbit
- 36 Age
- 37 Single
- 38 Uttering
- 41 Intertwined
- 44 Church platform

DOWN

- 1 Poet
- 2 Melody for one voice
- 3 Remitted
- 4 Ready
- 5 Rhea
- 6 Fix
- 7 Feature
- 8 Lesser
- 9 Wheel
- 10 Squeezes
- 11 Snafu
- 19 Gave back
- 21 Virgin Mary

- 23 Dog
- 24 Just
- 25 Daughters of the American Revolution (abbr.)
- 26 Shout of approval
- 29 Card game
- 30 Wine cask
- 31 Enzyme (suf.)
- 33 Afternoon show
- 34 Hawaiian dish
- 36 Oldest
- 39 Slack off
- 40 Lens
- 41 Bad case of the
- 42 Wealthy
- 43 Air (comb. form)
- 45 Lope
- 48 Airy; aerial
- 47 Spoils
- 50 Copper or bronze money

Crossword Companion

appears weekly.
 Answers appear on page 7 for this week's puzzle. Answers can also be found at *The Current Online*.
www.umsi.edu/studentlife/current

Coming next week in music reviews:

Marcy Playground

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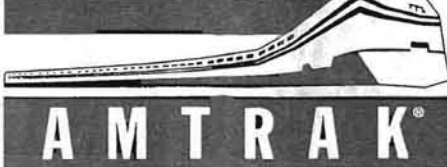
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Website Review

My Virtual Reference Desk could be your favorite research tool on the web

My Virtual Reference Desk
Bob Drudge - Webmaster
<http://www.refdesk.com>

Editor's note: With the pervasive presence of the world wide web growing daily, The Current has decided to do something to help, or at least entertain us all. This Internet site review is the first of an ongoing A&E feature. We intend to review useful, interesting and cool web sites.

The first site it titled My Virtual Reference Desk. It is a huge conglomeration of information and links. It doesn't have just links to other homepages but links to government documents and departments and to reference sites with encyclopedias, dictionaries and newspapers. It has links to cal-

endars, clocks and a thousand other useful sites.

My Virtual Reference Desk has links to homework help for the kindergartner to the college student. It includes links to sites where you can ask questions and get answers from experts in many different fields.

Perhaps the greatest feature of this site is the ease of navigating through it. Everything is neatly placed, easy to find and easy to read. It isn't the best site to see complex HTML or JAVA programming and graphics, but it gets the job done with ease. I strongly recommend visiting this site and becoming familiar with its layout and contents. I am confident you will find it useful sometime down the line.

-Matthew Regensburger

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Wanted: General Assignment reporters to cover campus news & events. no experience required but a plus. Call Bill @ 516-5174

LIFE IN HELL

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IT'S YOUR FAULT I WASTE SO MUCH TIME.

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IT'S YOUR FAULT I'M NOT RICH.

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25th Annual

Pulliam

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Winners will receive a \$5,000 stipend and will work at either The Indianapolis Star and The Indianapolis News or The Arizona Republic. Application postmark deadline is March 1, 1998.

For complete information, write: Russell B. Pulliam
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EOE

Faculty council proposes new guidelines for use of student computing fees

BY MARY LINDSLEY
staff writer

The Inter-Faculty Council has passed a resolution to recommend guidelines for the disbursement of student computing fees on this campus.

Currently, the University has no formal policy to determine exactly how the fees should be used.

Susan Feigenbaum, economics professor and IFC chairperson, said the council first raised concerns about the lack of guidelines last January.

"This is the single greatest category of growth in the University budget in terms of student expenditures," Feigenbaum said. "We began to ask the question, what would be reasonable categories for student fees, and what would be unreasonable categories for student fees."

The proposed guidelines recommend that the instructional computing fee be directed to support equipment, hardware, software and databases for both general and limited access labs. The guidelines provide for staffing along with specialized support for labs serving specific courses.

This action was motivated by faculty desires that student resources be used to maintain student learning . . . and reduce student frustration in becoming computer literate.

-Susan Feigenbaum
chairperson
Interfaculty Council

The proposal also allocates student fees for computer classrooms, e-mail and dial-in access.

In addition, the council has also outlined areas in which fees are not to be used, such as faculty research and administrative use. The guidelines also specify that fees should not be used for services and maintenance that are already covered in the regular University budget.

Similar policies are already in effect at UM-Kansas City and UM-Columbia.

"The guidelines are consistent with the guidelines that have been established on individual campuses," Feigenbaum said.

The Council also recommends that formal procedures be created to distribute a portion of the instructional computing fee to specific instructional areas. The proposal suggests fees be allocated to academic units either in proportion to the number of students in the unit or by faculty members submitting proposals for funds.

Jerrold Siegel, coordinator of campus computing, said the IFC's recommendations were similar to the way fees are currently distributed.

"The guidelines are very close to what we have been doing informally already," Siegel said. "The only thing we've not asked students to provide fees for is dial-in access."

Feigenbaum said she thought students would benefit from the proposal.

"This action was motivated by faculty desires that student resources be used to maintain student learning, improve access and reduce student frustration in becoming



Kevin McQuin, right, waits for a lab assistant to swipe his ID in the SSB 109 computing lab. SSB 109 is one of several labs supported by student computing fees.

computer literate," Feigenbaum said.

The resolution passed unanimously at a council meeting late last year. It was presented to members of the University Senate at

their meeting in December.

The resolution will be presented to UM-President Manuel Pacheco and the general officers for approval. □

Land swap almost final, approval from fed is last hurdle

BY DAVID BAUGHER
staff writer

The long-proposed land swap between UM-St. Louis and St. Louis County still must get federal approval before it can be finalized.

According to Donald Driemeier, deputy to the chancellor, the deal, which would exchange seven acres of land recently acquired by the University for an equal tract of St. Vincent County Park, requires permission from the National Park Service before it can go through.

"The reason the National Park Service has to look at it is that there were federal monies used by St. Louis County to buy and develop this park," Driemeier said. "It needs to be approved ultimately in Washington, D.C."

Reinhard Shuster, Vice chancellor for Administrative Services,

said the deal is designed to link the Honors College to the South Campus. He said that a road would likely be put in once the deal is approved.

"Basically we [want] it for its access to the Honors College so we can take the shuttle off the Bel-Nor streets," Shuster said.

Shuster said the deal has been in the works since about 1993. It would trade a section of the park's north side to UM-St. Louis in exchange for two smaller tracts to be incorporated into the park's south side.

Driemeier said the deal gained county approval last year when the dimensions of the proposal were adjusted to preserve a ball-field in the park.

Driemeier estimated that the deal might take several months to be finalized.

"I think it will be at least summer before we get that approved," he said. □

SIGNS, from page 1

ardly" because the vandal or group of vandals did the act in the middle of the night, instead of openly addressing concerns with the fraternity.

Blanton said that there is an opportunity to discuss issues at an open forum, and he would encourage a debate rather than vandalism.

Blanton said he initiated the open discussion Sept. 23, 1997, about Sigma Pi's Sexy Legs sign.

"I think we heard pretty interesting sharing of philosophy from both sides of the issue," Blanton said. "I think both sides learned from the discussion."

Blanton did not foresee another discussion about fraternity signs being vandalized. He said he did not

I think this is an act of jealousy or just an immature prank. I don't think they had anything personal against us.

-D.J. Frare
president
Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity

think anything could be resolved that was not resolved in the last forum.

Frare said he does not think other fraternities vandalized the signs. He said the fraternities have had good relations lately, especially during rush.

"I think this is an act of jealousy

senate members and Student Government Association representatives in December. Wilking called the survey "self-descriptive," indicative of the shape the final proposal will take.

Respondents were asked if they favored having an enrichment hour for one hour a week at noon on Wednesdays, or two hours a week on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:00 to 11:50 a.m.

The students and faculty surveyed were also asked if they would be willing to attend or teach more 8 a.m., 2 p.m. or Friday classes.

SGA president Jim Avery said he supports the proposal based on the survey's preliminary findings.

"I've seen 15 to 20 surveys so far, and every one of them has been supportive of the idea," Avery said.

Both Blanton and Wilking con-

The Current Newswire

Telephone Services' pages are now available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.umsi.edu/~teleserv>. The pages allow updates of directory information, search for faculty and staff, department information, dialing instructions and telephone set features. Comments can be directed to Larry Westermeyer at 4010 or by e-mail at larry_westermeyer@umsi.edu.

KWMU is scheduled to have its annual Valentine's Day fundraiser, "For the Love of KWMU," from Feb. 3-12. Call 516-4000 during the drive to pledge donations to the station in return for an order of chocolate or roses delivered to the person of your choice, or receive a certificate for a night at a bed and breakfast. Volunteers are also needed. Call 6772 to volunteer, or 5968 for details on the fund drive.

UM-St. Louis and Apple Computer will hold MacWorld 1998 Update Friday from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Room 003 of the Computer Center Building for faculty and staff. Topics to be covered include new professional options, MacOS 8.1, QuickTime 3.0, Oracle Partnership, Microsoft Office, Internet Explorer, Outlook Express and Business Financials for Q1 1998.

All individuals, organizations and departments are invited to attend a planning meeting for the University's third annual Hunger Awareness Week. The meeting will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11 at Newman House, 8200 Natural Bridge. Call 385-3455 for details.

Call Mary Lindsley at 516-5174 to submit items for Newswire.

or just an immature prank," Frare said. "I don't think they had anything personal against us."

Frare said the incident will not cause the pledge class to decrease.

"We're not going to suffer as a whole," he said. "We'll still have a great rush."

A Sigma Pi fraternity sign was lying face down on the ground Thursday morning, but it was not defaced. Blanton didn't consider this

an act of vandalism, and said the wind probably blew it over. □

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LETTERS, from page 4

was in the Jan. 12 The Current.

First of all I would like to say that I feel that I have not been represented in this issue at all. I do not belong to any club or organization at UM - St. Louis. How can I be represented if I do not belong in an organization? I know what some of you are going to say. Get involved!

How can I get involved when I have to work one full time job and a part time job just to go to school. Mr. Avery, how do you pay for your tuition? I can tell you that I work over fifty hours a week just to go here, not to mention all of the other expenses I have.

This brings me to my second point. Mr. Avery said that when we leave here with our degrees in hand that they will not be as prestigious than a degree from Mizzou or Washington University.

To go to Wash U. you have to pay over three hundred dollars per credit hour. Is UM - St. Louis competing with Washington University? Plus, how is having a new University Center going to make us more prestigious? I would rather be able to enter and exit the South Campus without worrying whether or not I should have my suspension checked.

Have you driven through the

South Campus? Have you ever walked in there while it's raining outside and had to dodge all the trash cans in the hallway? I would rather have all of that fixed before we go blowing up garages and putting in a new University Center.

Have you ever wondered where our parking money goes. I know I do whenever it snows and they don't clear the parking garages. They just close off the top layers.

If you have ever tried to walk down the steps after it has just snowed, you know what I'm talking about when I say there is only one small path going up and one small path going down.

What happened to salting the side walks? To me, fixing up around this school and making it look nice with what we have is more prestigious than having a new University Center.

When UM - St. Louis started, it was just a two year school and the price of tuition was affordable. Before the 45 percent increase, tuition was around sixty-two dollars a credit hour. Why not give the working people that scrape together barely enough money to go to school a little break.

Did you and the other people in the SGA even consider the people like me? I don't think that you did.

-Keith Hinkebein

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STOP, from page 1

campus and the social needs of the students."

Blanton said that the Office of Student Activities is working with the

Student Affairs Committee to determine how an enrichment hour would affect students, faculty and staff. He said he is surveying commuter-based universities around the country who have similar programs to learn more about the response they've received and the short- and long-term impact they've had.

"Some of them said they can't imagine not having one," Blanton said.

Surveys were also distributed to

I think one hour a week has little impact on students' stay on campus. Doing it for two days a week may have more of an impact.

-Bruce Wilking
Student Affairs Committee chair

vey's preliminary findings.

"I've seen 15 to 20 surveys so far, and every one of them has been supportive of the idea," Avery said.

Both Blanton and Wilking con-

firmed that the initial response has been favorable. "We've had trouble getting anyone to say anything bad about it," Wilking said. Wilking also said he felt the effects of the plan on the University's busy commuter students would be minimal.

"I think one hour a week has little impact on students' stay on campus," Wilking said. "Doing it for two days a week may have more of an impact."

Wilking said he is still seeking input from faculty and staff regarding the possible effects of an enrichment hour in terms of enrollment and retention.

According to Blanton, the idea for an enrichment hour came about during a 1978 planning project called UMSL 2000 but didn't gain momentum until three years ago. He said timing issues have prevented the proposal from reaching completion since then.

A survey conducted during the 1995 student government elections showed that 57 percent of the 939 polled favored having an enrichment hour. □

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